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April 29, 2020

Major General Raymond F. Shields Jr.
Adjutant General for the State of New York
NYS Division of Military & Naval Affairs
330 Old Niskayuna Road
Latham, NY 12110

Dear Major General Shields,

I write today to urge you to consider that the two available New York State National Guard Mobile Testing Units at Fort Hamilton Army Base in my district be mobilized to serve a public safety mission of providing COVID-19 testing to veterans and staff of the Brooklyn Veterans' Affairs (VA) Hospital in my district and VA facilities throughout New York City. I thank you for all your steadfast work to fight this pandemic in my community and across New York, including your focus on helping our veterans and healthcare workers. Working together, we can continue this mission to dramatically boost COVID-19 testing capacity.

The two Mobile Testing Units are currently at Fort Hamilton and are awaiting orders and together they can process 200 tests per day. Let's work together to mobilize them on a mission to ensure that our New York City VA facilities get the COVID-19 testing they need. In my discussions with the National Guard, who have been operating these Mobile Testing Units, it is clear that that this is the best use of their capabilities.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Max Rose
Member of Congress